

Economic estimation of diagnosis and treatment costs of hepatitis B, C and D among population

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BACKGROUND and aims

In our country, hepatitis B, C and D viruses are considered as the most common cause of liver cancer. However, economic issues related to hepatitis virus infections and liver disease can create a significant financial burden for the family and it is the reason for conducting this research work.

METHODS

In this study, a total of 90 people have involved and questionnaire related to economic issues and diagnosis and treatment have been developed. Cross-sectional study was carried out using questionnaire.

From Oct 20 to Nov 03, 2015, patients, who visited to Liver Centre, were asked to fill out the questionnaire voluntarily and statistical analysis of the data has been done by using software programs, such as Windows SPSS 20, Excel 2015, and Word 2015.

RESULTS

In this study, a total of 90 people, aged 20-75, have been participated and from them 26 (28,8%) were male and 64 (71,2%) were female. Among them, patients with HBV account for 11 (12%) and HCV- 60 (67%), and dual infection with HBV and HCV -5 (6%), and dual infection with HBV and HDV -11 (12%) have been reported, respectively. But triple infection with B, C and D virus accounts for 3 (3%). Among the patients, 62 people diagnosed with chronic inflammation of liver and 12 people had compensated cirrhosis and 12 people had decompensated cirrhosis of liver and 4 people diagnosed with liver cancer, respectively.

Economic estimation had been done and it showed that 51.7% of the people, who have chronic inflammation and 66.7% of those with compensated cirrhosis, and 58.4% of those who have decompensated cirrhosis of liver and 75% of people with liver cancer spend more than 300,001MNT for diagnostic procedures, respectively.

However, 37.1% of the people, who have chronic inflammation, and 75% of those with compensated cirrhosis, and 41.6% of those who have decompensated cirrhosis

of liver and 100% of people with liver cancer spend more than 300,001MNT for the only one time treatment, respectively.

We were concerned on whether these people are able to pay the cost of treatment. The results showed that 90% of the total respondents answered that they cannot afford such cost and unable to pay a treatment payment.

CONCLUSION

According to this study, it is clear that high cost of diagnosis and treatment of chronic liver inflammation, cirrhosis and liver cancer is a significant financial burden for the patients, who suffer from these kinds of diseases. It was shown that most of the people with liver diseases cannot afford the high cost of present or newly emerging drugs and treatment.

